

COMMENT OF THE DAY

ECAFE Meeting

THIS morning, His Excellency the Governor opened the first meeting of the sub-committee on trade of UNECAFE—a new born offspring of the parent body which in the post-war years has come to be known as the "Economic Parliament of Asia". The sub-committee came into being only a year ago at the behest of the parent organisation after two general conferences on Asian trade, held in 1951 and 1953, suggested that useful work might be undertaken by a special group dealing with specific problems common to many of the member countries. The precise work to be undertaken by this sub-committee is to be determined at the meeting which begins this afternoon. Trade promotion will be one important item for discussion since there is wide scope for development in this sphere in many of the younger ECAFE nations. In this particular instance it is felt that ECAFE, in addition to promoting co-operation among members, can act as a clearing house by circulating in its various pamphlets and publications details of trade agreements and other information of commercial interest.

STANDARDISATION of commodities, commercial arbitration and market studies are other items to be considered at the meeting for inclusion in the sub-committee's schedule of work in the coming year. Sir Alexander Grantham did well to stress the need for all member countries to "face facts" and remove restrictive and unnecessary controls so that responsibility for maintaining regular food supplies can be returned to private traders. This is another subject which is likely to be considered. In fact, the range of subjects open to discussion is boundless. The long term aims of all these plans have the commendable virtue of serving one of the underlying principles of the parent body which is to help all Asian nations improve living standards.

MANY will no doubt feel that ECAFE with its headquarters in the comparative remoteness of Bangkok would do better to establish branch offices in the various countries it serves. This is impracticable largely because of the organisation's somewhat slender budget of U.S. \$1 million a year. But ECAFE officials are forever on the move and frequent conferences on a number of economic problems held all over Asia ensure that both the Commission itself as well as Government economists of member nations see the problems, resources and capabilities of neighbouring territories at first hand. For this reason, Hongkong particularly welcomes the decision of the Commission to hold the first trade sub-committee meeting here.

ECAFE covers a huge area of the world, stretching from Afghanistan to Japan, an area with a total population of 1,200 million people. Any consideration of its function in improving Asia's economic lot, it has since its inception composed a significant record of accomplishment. Alas they never make Press headlines. The contributions of the Commission to the work of economic development are more of an incidental nature but nevertheless they are positive and they have enabled many countries to make substantial savings with individual projects. ECAFE is rather the moving spirit behind economic development in Asia. It is the ever-willing guide and counsellor, the essential organisation that gives valuable assistance by spreading the doctrine of co-operation and coordination as a means of surmounting problems. In this connection the work of the Commission has been of inestimable value to its members.

THE proceedings in Hongkong, of course, are not likely to contribute anything of spectacular interest to the columns of the local Press, but for those who seek entertainment and sensation the tactics of the Russians may afford sufficient interest. A final point: this conference will enable Hongkong to see for the first time a United Nations meeting in miniature which should do much to edify local people on the processes of the "mother organisation". In Hong Kong, which has captured so much attention for recent months,

SOVIET MOVE FAILS AT ECAFE

Bid To Have Red China At Conference Is Ruled Out Of Order Nationalist Attack On Russia

From The China Mail Special Representatives

A Soviet Russian move that "representatives of the People's Republic of China be invited to take their place in the Committee" failed at the first session of the meeting of the Trade Sub-committee of ECAFE at the Grantham Training College this morning.

The Philippine delegate, Mr P. Laguio immediately moved that the proposal was out of order because it involved a political decision which a technical and subordinate body of ECAFE was not competent to make.

The Chairman pro tem, Dr Palamadai S. Lokanathan, suggested that the Committee adopt rules of procedure before they consider these two points made by the Soviet and Philippine delegates.

After the Committee had adopted the rules of procedure, Dr Lokanathan ruled that the Soviet proposal was out of order.

In moving Communist China's participation in the Soviet delegate, Mr V. B. Spandaryan said everyone knew the important part which the People's Republic of China played in the economic status of the region and members of the region were interested in the economic development of the People's Republic of China.

He added that the People's Republic of China had made a series of trade agreements based on equality with some member nations of this region.

The Soviet delegate later made another statement after the Chairman's ruling that the Kuomintang representative had neither the political nor the moral right to represent the people of China and only the representative of the People's Republic of China may speak in the name of the Chinese people.

A DISTORTION

The Nationalist Chinese delegate said the Soviet statement was a distortion of fact and a piece of propaganda, hushed and re-hashed untruths times at other U.N. international conferences, and which had been ruled out of order as many times as it was proposed.

The Indian delegate Mr B. K. Kochhar supported the statement of the Soviet delegate

while Pakistan agreed with the Nationalist Chinese delegate. Dr Lokanathan said that these statements would be noted by the sub-committee.

CHAIRMAN ELECTED
The Committee then proceeded to elect the chairman and vice-chairman for the conference.

Proposed by the Philippine delegate and seconded by France, Dr the Hon. S. N. Chau, Chief Delegate from Hongkong, was elected Chairman and Mr Perfecto E. Laguio, the Philippine delegate, was elected Vice-Chairman on the proposal of India, seconded by the United States.

At this point, the conference was adjourned until this afternoon.

GOVERNOR'S SPEECH
Earlier, His Excellency, the Governor, Sir Alexander Grantham, urged member nations to speed up the de-control of trade when he officially opened the first meeting of the Sub-Committee on Trade of the United Nations Economic Commission for Asia and the Far East (ECAFE).

"Hongkong," His Excellency said, "has an area of less than 400 square miles. We produce only a fraction of the food we consume, and most of what we sell to you is bought from you in the form of raw materials."

His Excellency pointed out that where there was trade there was no need for aid, and where there was no need for aid there was less room for suspicion, misunderstanding and bitterness between nations.

90 DELEGATES

About 90 delegates from more than 20 nations are taking part in the meeting. Besides delegates from member countries, there are representatives from various specialised agencies of the United Nations and a few observers from non-member countries both inside and outside the ECAFE region.

The meeting, which will last until January 12, will devote itself essentially to determining the priority in which diverse problems within the terms of reference should be tackled.

His Excellency told the delegates:

"This is the first time the Economic Commission for Asia and the Far East has held one of its international conferences in Hong Kong, and it so happens that this is the first meeting of the recently formed Sub-Committee on Trade, which I understand supersedes the two Trade Promotion Conferences held previously in Singapore and Manila. It gives me special pleasure therefore to extend to you all a very warm welcome on behalf of the Government and people of Hongkong."

PLEA FOR MORE TRADE

"I am told that one of the prerogatives of the host Government is that it can say as much as it likes about itself. Well, I am not going to exercise that prerogative. A great deal has already been said and written about Hongkong, and, if I know my Department of Commerce and Industry, I think the Trade Promotion Section will see to it that you are kept well supplied with information throughout the sessions. I have no doubt that governmental and other publications will be only too conspicuous, but I hope you will be interested enough in what we have done and are doing, to read some of them.

"As you know Hongkong has an area of less than 400 square miles. We produce only a fraction of the food we consume, and most of what we sell to you is bought from you in the form of raw materials. By our industry and skill we turn these materials into a number of things you find attractive enough to buy back from us at a profit.

FREE TRADE

"Out of the keenly competitive earnings from industry, from our shipping, banking and insurance services, we try to provide a reasonable standard of living for more than 2 1/2 million people. We are firm believers in free trade in Hongkong. We believe that where there is plenty of trade there is no need for aid, and where there is no need for aid there is less room for suspicion, misunderstanding and bitterness between nations.

"On the general question of the 'family complexities' within the ECAFE region, I need hardly remind you that there are already many sources of in-

formation on practically every economic problem under the sun. It is so easy to add to the flow without adding to the substance, and I am content to leave it to the experts gathered here today to concentrate on the substance.

"Unfortunately for a very long time now many of the experienced business leaders of the region have been forced to recede into the background. They have been superseded by civil servants who have had to impose and administer controls over essential supplies of food and materials during long periods of political uncertainty. I fear much damage may have been done during these last few years, for it has taken governments a long time to appreciate the finer points of an extremely complex trading structure.

FACE FACTS

"There is also another problem caused by the unwillingness of some governments to face facts and to recognise that in reality the emergency has eased and that some prohibitions and restrictions have become more a habit than a necessity.

"I should like you to give consideration to these matters

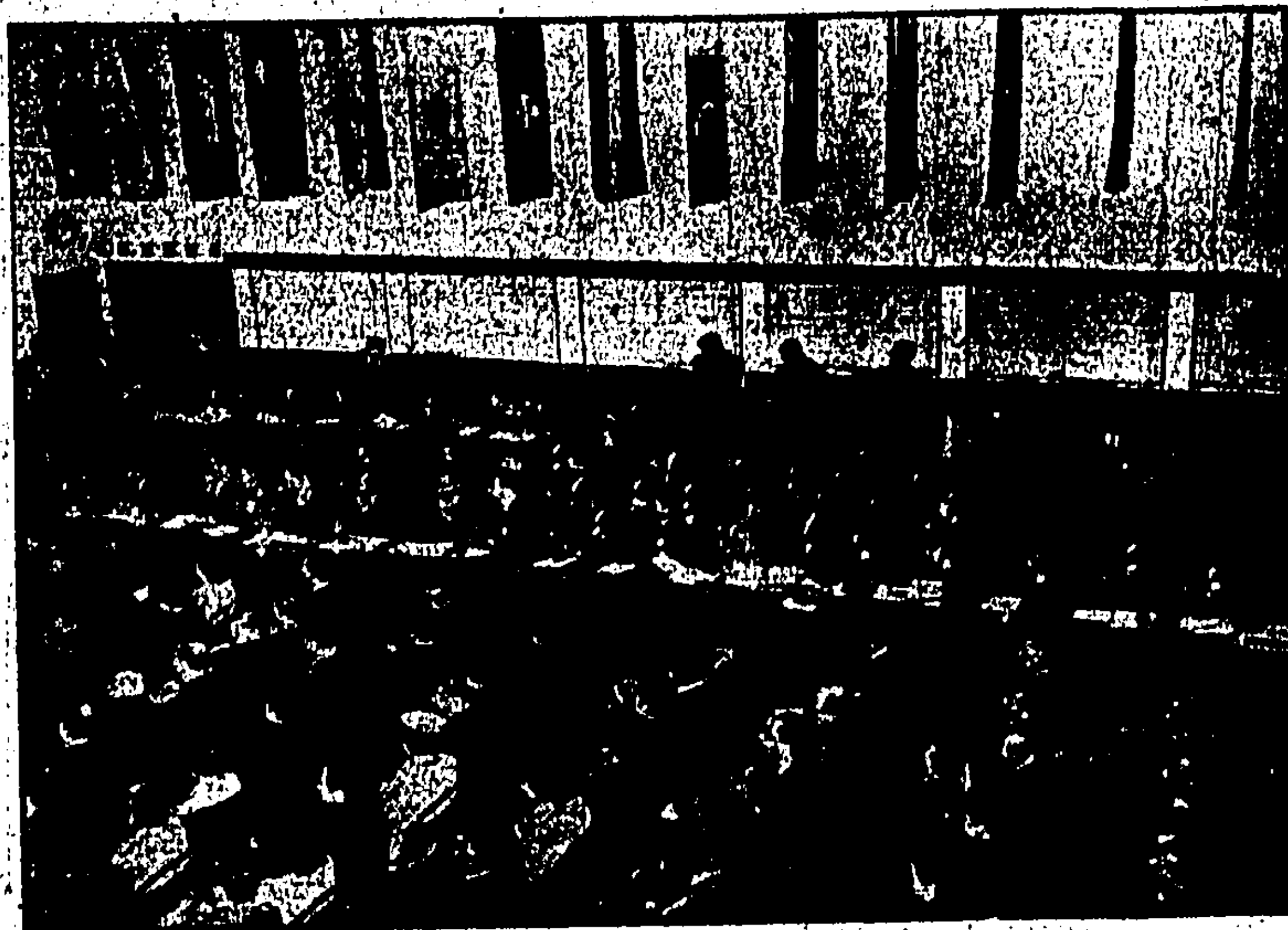
with the view to doing everything you can to speed up the removal of controls, so that the responsibility for maintaining regular supplies of food and materials can be handed back to those experienced private traders who have forgotten more than governments are ever likely to know."

"I know you have all come to this meeting with the very best intentions. I hope you will have many opportunities for discussion in a friendly and informal atmosphere and that you will get to know more about one another's trade problems and help to solve them to your mutual advantage.

"Your aims will be directed chiefly towards finding ways and means to assist and to increase the flow of goods and services from one country to another. In other words, you are here to promote trade and we, in this part of the world, know only too well what happens if trade is allowed to fall to too low a level. True, it is necessary to provide and maintain a reasonable standard of living in all countries.

(Contd. on back page, Col. 3)

Delegates Listen To Governor's Speech



These two pictures taken by our own photographer at the Grantham Training College show (above) a general view of the conference hall where delegates are listening to the Governor's opening speech this morning, and (left) the Governor making his speech, flanked by the flags of participating nations. Overhead is the emblem of the United Nations.

Now it's their turn

Melbourne, Jan. 6.
Tom Goodman, the Sydney Morning Herald cricket writer, today called for a "drastic overhaul of Australia's Test team."

"That is demanded after the debacle on the Melbourne cricket ground yesterday when in one of the most disturbing collapses in our Test history the home team on a dry pitch lost eight wickets with the addition of a paltry 38 runs," wrote Goodman.

He said the pitch was not a bad one. "It created some uncertainty because of the variation in height but that did not explain the sorry melancholy nature of the Australian failure," he added.

Other Australian cricket writers also deplored the failure of Australia's batting.—China Mail Special.

3 Killed In Freak Storm

Manila, Jan. 6.
A freak tropical storm left a trail of destruction in the Visayas and Mindanao in the southern Philippines yesterday and claimed three lives in the two provinces.

Reported missing and presumed dead were 10 fishermen whose boat was tossed around in the Tanon Strait between Cebu and Negros provinces.

Latest reports pouring in from the stricken provinces give a grim account of the storm's destruction in property.

Floods surged in at least seven provinces as the result of torrential rains. Landslides were reported to have blocked land transportation in many towns in the Surigao Province.—France-Press.

NO MORE CUTS IN U.S. FORCES

'Unless The World Situation Improves'

Washington, Jan. 5.
President Eisenhower said today that any major manpower reductions in the United States armed forces beyond those already planned for the next year would be "dependent upon an improved world situation."

The President, in a letter to the Secretary of Defense, Mr. Charles Wilson, said he would ask Congress to provide for an active armed forces strength of about 3,000,000 men by next June 30. This compares with about 3,168,000 today.

The President said that of the approximately three million men the Air Force would be increased to about 975,000. This would be a rise of about 14,000 in the present Air Force strength.

Mr. Eisenhower wrote that the threat of modern war called for "constant mobilization" of the Nation's defenses.

He said that experience would determine "to what extent the personnel strengths set for June 1955 would be under review."

He added it would not be wise at this time to set rigid targets for 1960. But said that a "significant" reduction of about 2,500,000 "with any further material reductions dependent upon an improved world situation" would be considered.

In Quest Of The Four-minute Mile

Riverhead, New York, Jan. 6.

Charlie Grogan, 47, is brooding this night that no American had yet broken the four-minute mile.

The more indignant he got as he hopped a few drinks in a local tavern, the more he felt that he could do it.

At the drop of a beer bottle he was off down the

main street in his underwear, with the number 4 leashed on a bar-chit, determined to do what Wes Santee had failed to accomplish.

OVERTAKEN

Grogan, as his friends like to call him, whisked past Police headquarters to the surprise of patrolmen Chester Romanek, who was sworn to uphold the speed limit.

Patrolman Romanek, without the benefit of running pants, overtook the fleeing Grogan on a turn.

Today, Grogan was back in the same cold he had left two days ago where he had served a 30-day term for public intoxication.

"That, you never would have caught me," Grogan said. "I'm a fast feller."

Temperature Drops To 41

The early morning temperature today dropped down to 41 degrees Fahrenheit which was the lowest since February 1952 when the temperature dropped to 39.3 degrees.

Yesterday's minimum was 44.6 degrees.

The current cold spell would continue for at least two more days, according to the Royal Observatory.

It has been caused by an intense Siberian anticyclone spreading across South China.

New Cold Wave Threatens Britain

London, Jan. 5.

A new cold wave rolling in from the sea tonight threatened to hurl more snow on blizzard-battered Britain.

Winter's coldest weather held most of the continent in an icy grip with the mercury sitting generally south of the freezing point.

Eleven new storm deaths in the past 24 hours carried Europe's overall toll to at least 85 since snow-laced gales swept in the winter's coldest weather with the New Year.

Traffic accidents injured scores of people. Treacherous ice coated thousands of miles of Europe's pavements.

DEEP DRIFTS

The Air Ministry brought bad news to Britons still recovering from yesterday's extraordinarily heavy snowfall which lay in 12 ft. deep drifts in some parts of the country.

It forecast a new cold front moving northwards from the mouth of the English Channel, bringing more snow and sleet tomorrow. It said a wide region from the south-west coast of Devon and Cornwall to the industrial Midlands might be affected.

The fresh snowfall is expected to blanket Holland and Belgium as well.

FROST WARNING

Britain's weather men warned that frost coming on top of today's slight thaw could make roads extremely dangerous. Further outlook was "continuing cold."

In Germany, guests driving to help the West German Chancellor, Dr Konrad Adenauer, celebrate his 80th birthday at Bonn were stalled for hours on ice-glazed roads. Snow up to 20 inches deep fell in the Harz mountains.—United Press.

Bewi
AUTOMAT

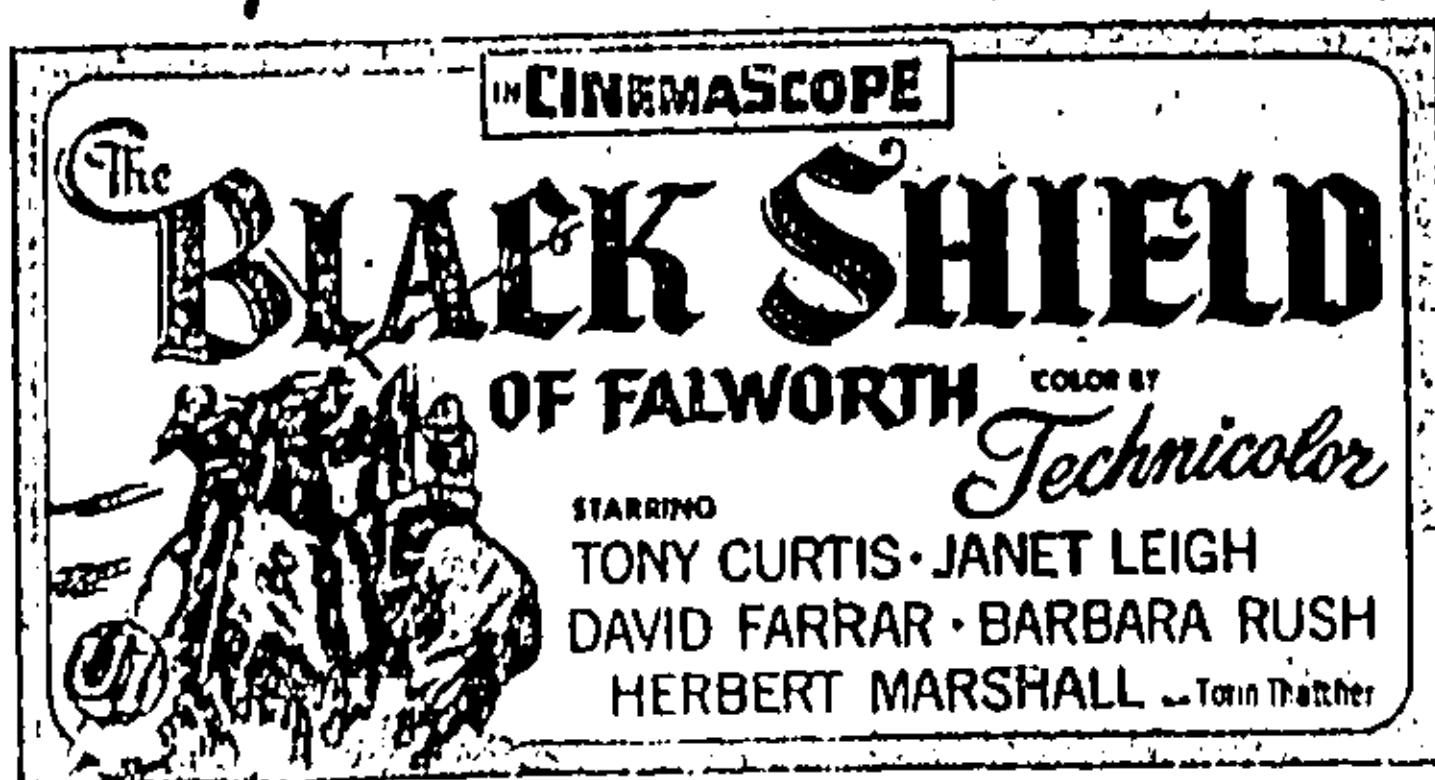
BERIRAN
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At 2.30, 5.15, 7.30 & 9.30 p.m. || At 2.30, 5.30, 7.30 & 9.30 p.m.

SHOWING TO-DAY



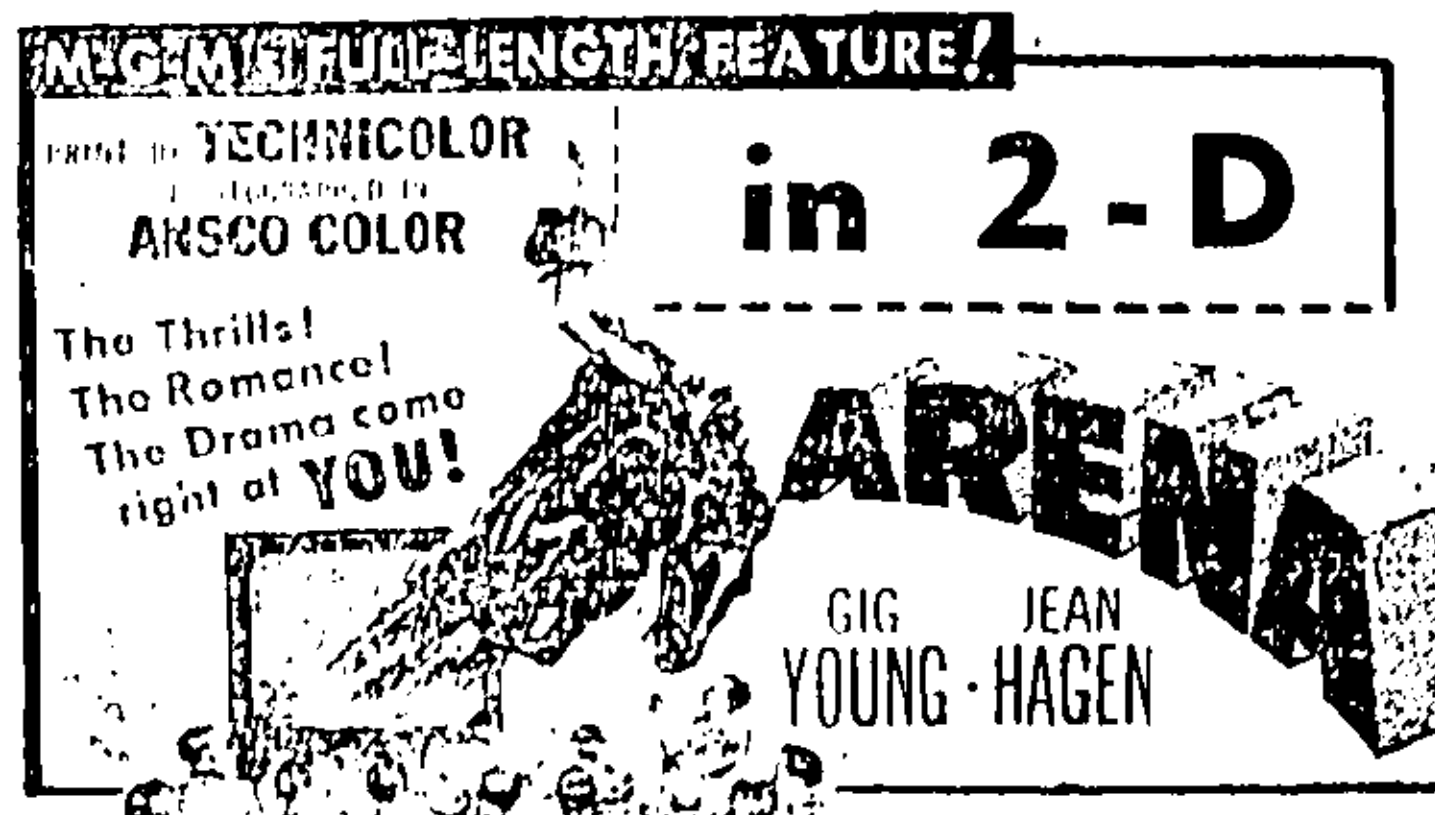
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AT 2.30, 5.20 & 7.30 P.M.

ON PANORAMIC SCREEN



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DAILY AT 2.30, 5.30, 7.30 & 9.30 P.M.

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Owing to length of picture please note change of times:
At 2.30, 5.10, 7.30 & 9.40 p.m.

GRAND OPENING TO-MORROW



BOOKINGS NOW OPEN!

U.S. NAVAL AIR POWER

High Priority Given
For Production
Of New Aircraft
LONG RANGE BOMBERS

Washington, Jan. 5.

United States naval air power will take on a mighty new look this year as a whole new series of war planes joins the fleet.

The latest addition to the Navy's aerial arsenal is a 600-mile an-hour-plus flying boat — the Seamaster.

The Administration has given high priority to the build-up of Navy air strength.

Details on new atomic bombers, supersonic fighters and long-range transports were disclosed by Navy and industry officials here and during a recent tour of California installations.

CARRIER-BORNE BOMBERS
Modernized aircraft carriers will begin next summer to launch their first 600 to 700 mile-an-hour jet bombers able to bomb targets well over 1,000 miles away.

The carriers will be defended by the Navy's first supersonic fighters, planes flying in the 700 to 800 mile-an-hour range.

The Navy also is developing water-based bombers, fighters and transport planes, into a new type of air striking force that could play a vital role in future war.

The Navy was caught short of modern planes when the Korean war broke out. Now the Admiralty are confident that they have a batch of planes in all categories that can handle any enemy.

Two new bombers and two fighters are stars of the upcoming carrier-based force.

The Douglas A3D Skywarrior, a 70,000-pound plane, is described as "designed to fly at

faster speeds, over longer distances and with a greater striking load than any other known aircraft of its weight or size."

It can fly more than 2,500 miles and has a speed of 600 to 700 miles per hour. It will go into service next summer as the Navy's "basic atom bomber." The Air Force also has ordered the plane, calling it the B-50.

BANTAM BOMBER

Also going into service next summer is the Douglas X4D Skyhawk, a "bantam" size bomber so small it can be stowed aboard a ship without folding wings.

Able to span the continent without refueling, the little atomic bomber flies more than 600 miles an hour. It can be refueled in flight.

In the fighter department, the Navy will send to shipboard squadrons in about six months' time the Douglas F4D Skyray, a jet which broke a world speed record with 752.9 miles per hour at sea level in 1953 when it was still in the experimental stage.

It will be an all-purpose carrier fighter, replacing the famed F4U Corsairs of World War II. A faster fighter coming along later is the Grumman F9F Tigercat, probably in the 800 miles per hour class. Still in the experimental stages are two fighters, the Convair XFY and the Lockheed XFV, which take off and land vertically, requiring no runway or carrier deck.

Once thought to be on its way out, the lumbering seaplane has through research been endowed with the high-speed performance of its land and carrier-based brothers. A growing group within the Navy sees a water-based striking arm as a potent force operating independently of aircraft carrier task forces or in conjunction with them.

FORM A TEAM

Seaplane units could form a team with submarines and tankers, operating from remote islands and making powerful hit-and-run raids against enemy installations. To fit the concept, the Navy is developing three new plane types.

The latest of these is Martin P5M Seamaster, a high-speed bomber and mine-laying flying boat. A long-range plane powered by four jet engines, it will begin test flights early this year. Production could get underway within a year.

Ready for service now is a 400-mile an hour seaplane transport, the Convair R4Y. As a flying LSP it can load military equipment through a tremendous door in the bow or carry 103 passengers. In a passenger version, the Tradewind, it carries 80 passengers and will soon be operating between the West coast and Hawaii.

The sea-based fighter now under development is the Convair F2Y Seadart, a jet which has exceeded the speed of sound.

SUPPORT PLANE

Navy officers say a plane of that type can support ground troops in amphibious landings and strike against enemy supply lines. It could haul all kinds of weapons, including atomic.

Production of a sea-based fighter could get underway in a year or two, Navy officers say. —United Press.



Jean Fourasté, 47, from Tarbes, France, looks like a perfect monster as he gives vent to his anger while appearing in the dock of the Tarbes Assizes. He was charged with the murder of 70-year-old Jean Lafitte. Helped by a woman accomplice, he poisoned, then strangled the old man and boiled his body in a wash tub. Jean Fourasté has been known in his surroundings as a quiet and honest man before the committed the monstrous crime.—Express Photo.

'TV EYE' FINDS
CAR PLACES IN
PARKING LOT

New York, Jan. 5.

Car parking on a big lot in Oakland, California, is being speeded by a "television eye" that scans the ground and spots the empty spaces.

MAU MAU
LEADER
KILLED

Nairobi, Jan. 5.

Kikuyu guards have killed a Mau Mau gang leader, Jomo Gakere, in the Fort Hall area and seized a quantity of the terrorists' medical supplies, an official communiqué said today.

Another terrorist, though badly wounded, escaped with the dead leader's precision rifle.

The communiqué said seven other terrorists have surrendered and that two service rifles, two home-made guns and some ammunition were captured south of Nairobi.

During a helicopter demonstration at Nairobi the police detained 31 Africans after checking documents among the crowd.—Reuter.

Before directing drivers, the attendant glances at a 21-in. television screen in his booth at the entrance. This shows him exactly where the free places are.

The closed-circuit spotter works this way.

The television camera is mounted on top of an electric light standard.

It is connected to the receiver in the booth. "Pan-and-tilt" mechanism enables the camera to scan the whole parking lot and project the entire scene to the receiver.

There is a special waterproof housing so that the camera can work in all weathers. —(London Express Service).

U.S. Pays R.O.K.

Seoul, Jan. 5.

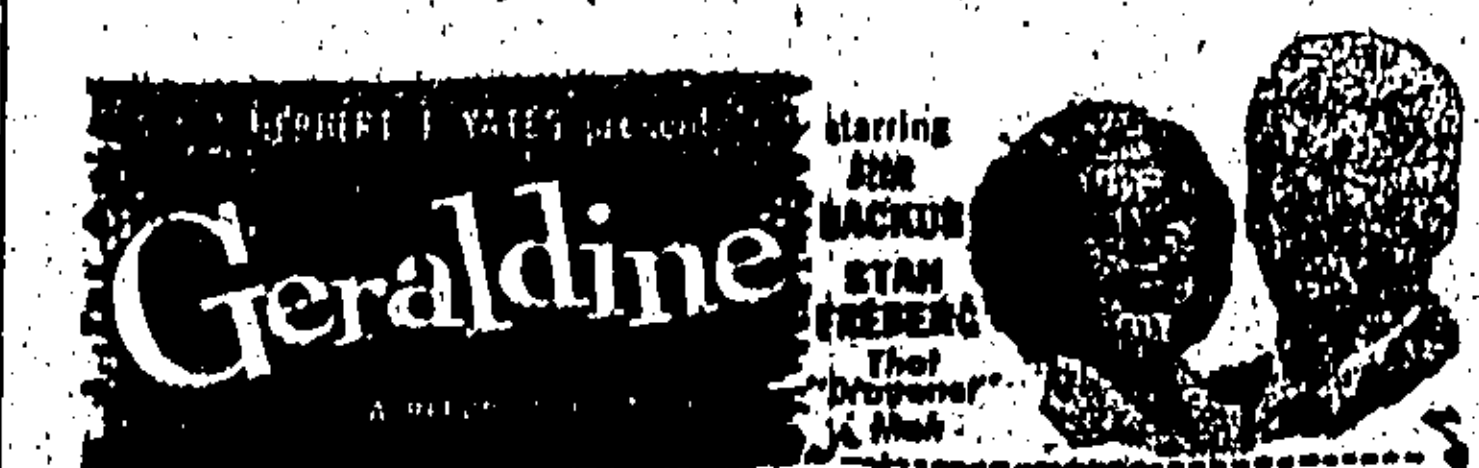
The United States paid the Republic of Korea \$4,588,939 which it owed for Korean hwan currency advances to the United States Army during the past six months, the ROK Ministry of Finance revealed on Tuesday.—United Press.

MAJESTIC

SHOWING TO-DAY

AT 2.30, 5.20, 7.30 & 9.30 P.M.

ON OUR GIANT WIDE SCREEN!



QUEEN'S & ALHAMBRA

2.30, 5.15, 7.30 & 9.30 P.M. || 2.30, 5.30, 7.30 & 9.30 P.M.

SHOWING TO-DAY — BY REQUEST



NEXT CHANGE! WB presents IN CINEMASCOPE "TRACK OF THE CAT" Robert MITCHUM • Terita WRIGHT

RITZ

FINAL
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TO-DAY

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TO-MORROW: "DUEL IN THE JUNGLE"

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3 SHOWS TO-DAY
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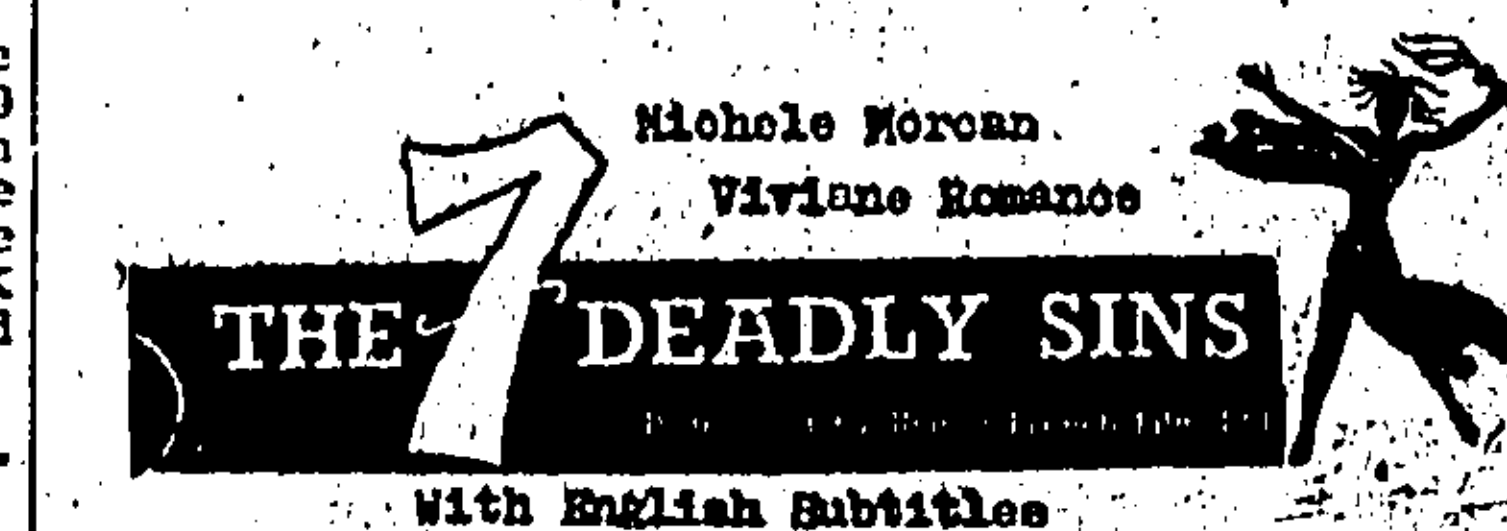
"SPRING IS IN THE AIR"

A CHINESE PICTURE

9.30 p.m. — PIANO RECITAL by

JULIUS KATCHEN

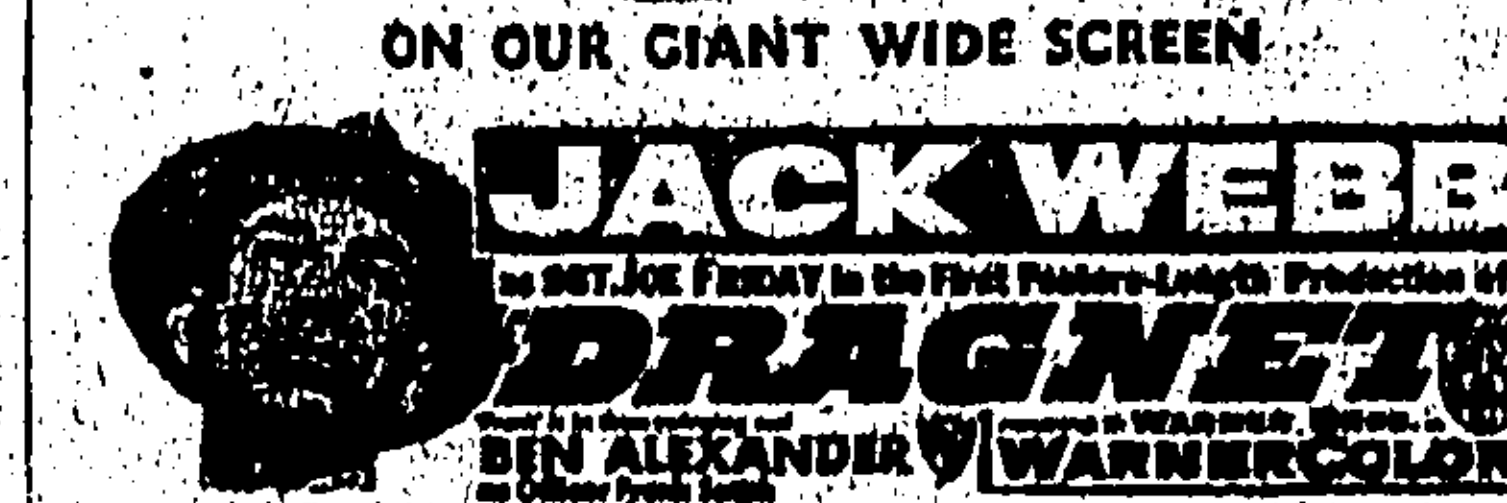
— NEXT CHANGE —



ORIENTAL

SHOWING TO-DAY

AT 2.30, 5.30, 7.30 & 9.30 P.M.

Mistaken
Attitude
Toward US

Colombo, Jan. 5.

Sir John Kotelawala, Premier of Ceylon, said in a broadcast here tonight that he was convinced that the attitude of some Asian countries toward American was "mistaken."

Sir John added that he was sure that American aid to Asia was sincere and without an ulterior motive.

Referring to the forthcoming Asian-African Conference, the Premier said that the invitations had been issued on the basis of a country's political independence, which was why Communist China had been invited.

The participation of any country made no difference to the views of others attending the conference, he said.

Sir John said that he found in his recent world tour that people wanted nothing but peace. But he said, national leaders felt that unless over-population was tackled soon, this problem would be worse than that of war. —France-Press.

Arrest Of
Trawlers
Called Off,
Says Paper

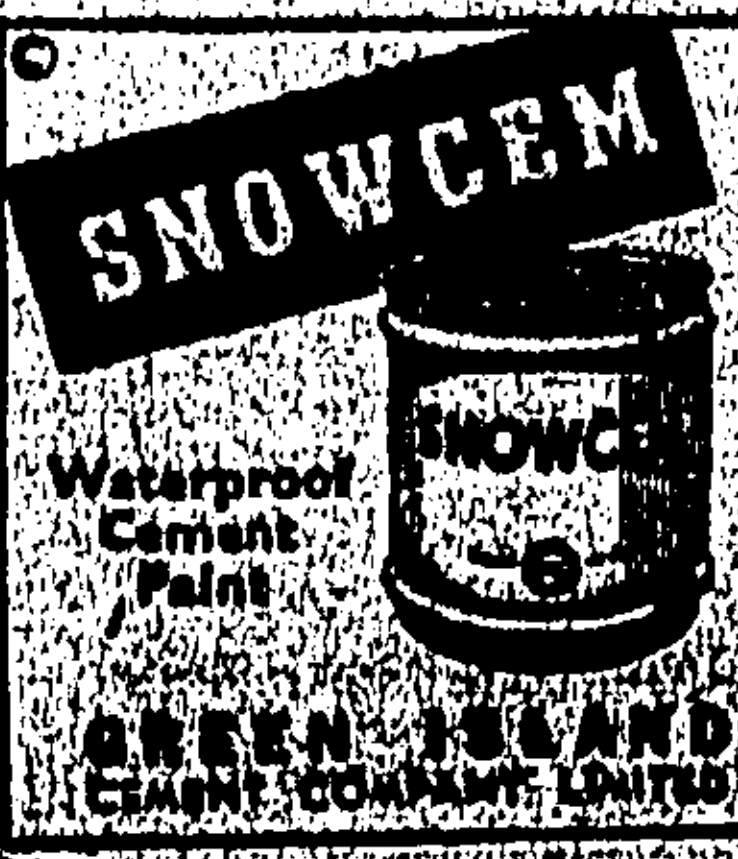
Melbourne, Jan. 5.

The Melbourne Age reported today that the arrest of a Japanese vessel said to be fishing within Australian waters had been called off at the last moment by the Commonwealth Department of Commerce and Agriculture. It said officials were puzzled by the Department's direction.

The newspaper said two Japanese vessels were fishing unmolested in "declared" Australian waters off the coast of Papua. The Australian minister, Wogan, said to arrive on vessel, received instructions at the last moment to leave the ship alone.

The Age said Lincoln Bombers which located the Japanese vessels yesterday were standing by awaiting further directions. The Melbourne Age today quoted Mr. Wogan, said the Labour Premier of Queensland as saying the Australian Government had not been asked to take any action against the Japanese fishing vessels.

POP



'GRAVE SITUATION' IN ALGERIA



Mr. William O. Douglas

Good Job Done Against Communism By India

Tucson, Jan. 5.—Justice William O. Douglas said today that India has done a good job against Communism.

Speaking before the Young Democrats of Greater Tucson, the Supreme Court Justice said that Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru has set one of the most brilliant pieces of political action against Communism.

Because of Mr. Nehru's education of the public to the internal danger of Communism, Mr. Douglas said, there are in India only a few Communists in government and they are impotent at the national level. —France-Press.

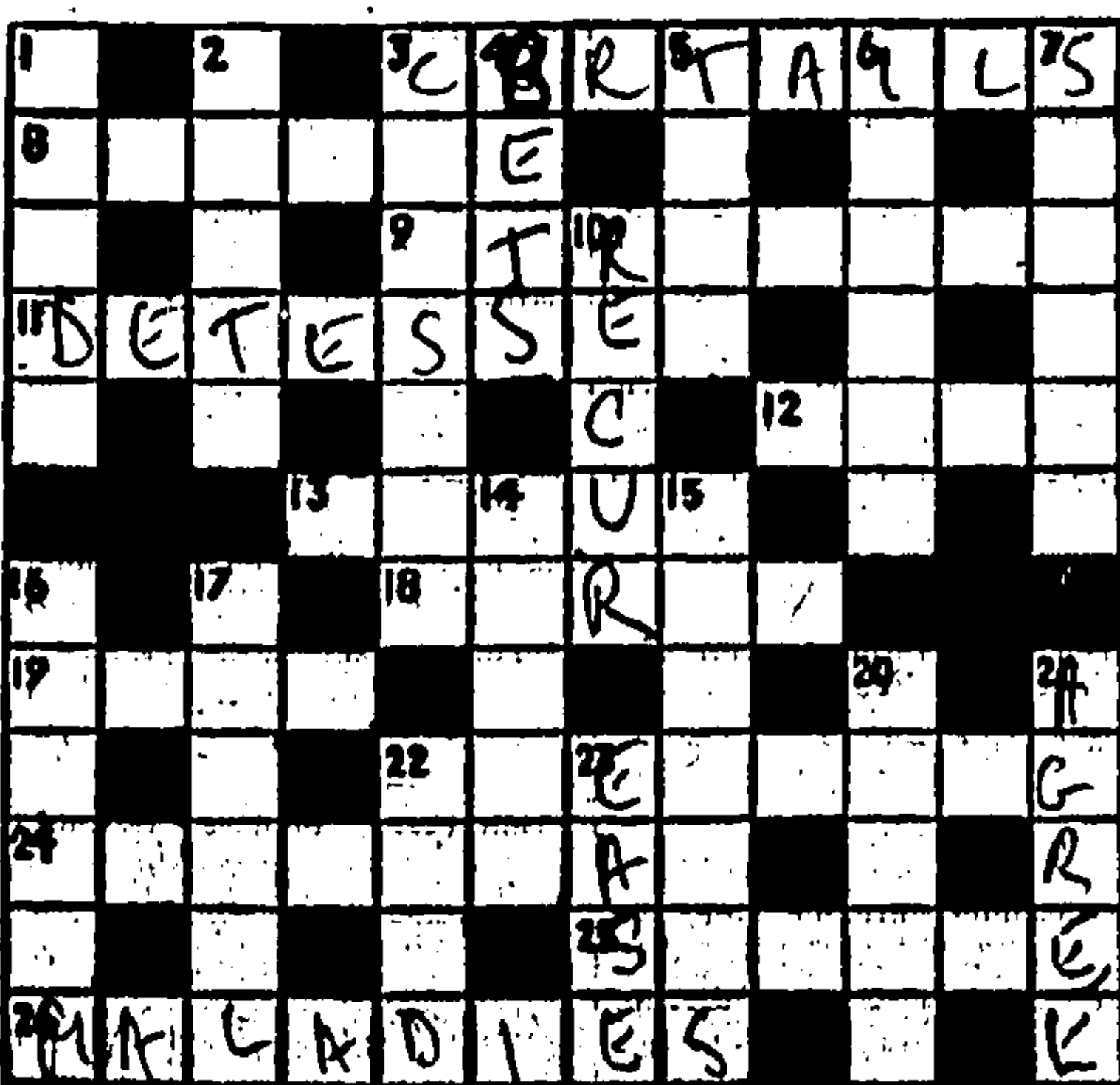
Little Progress With Colour TV In America

London, Jan. 5.—Sir Ian Jacob, Director-General of the British Broadcasting Corporation, said today that colour television had not got off to a premature start in the United States and had made little progress.

"There is not a receiving tube which anyone will dare go out and mass produce with confidence," he added. "But there will be soon."

Coloured television which was bound to come, would be operating in Britain in two or three years' time, he forecast. —China Mail Special.

A British Crossword Puzzle



ACROSS
3 Shortens (8).
8 Head (6).
9 Rancous (8).
11 Scorns (8).
12 Object of worship (4).
13 Play noisily (8).
16 Hoofers (6).
18 Scheme (4).
22 Young plant (8).
24 Eastern (8).
25 Rancous (8).
26 Afflictions (8).

DOWN
1 Implement (6).
2 Scum (6).
3 Hoops (7).
4 Wagers (4).
5 Flower (6).
6 Avaricious (6).
7 Doggie (6).
10 Be reported (8).
14 Bolt securing metal plates (5).
15 Interjects with (7).
16 Put forth shoals (6).
17 Flaming place (8).
20 Snake (8).
21 Concur (6).
22 Recused, because of social inferiority (4).
23 Believe (4).

YESTERDAY'S CROSSWORD—Across: 1. Reptiles, 7. Earle, 8. Mullinger, 10. Retail, 11. Trade, 12. Early, 13. Revenge, 14. Cries, 15. Rivalled, 16. Rival, 17. Mission, 18. Tulle, 19. Duplicates, 20. Heart, 21. Rival, 22. Rival, 23. Rival, 24. Rival, 25. Rival, 26. Rival, 27. Rival, 28. Rival, 29. Rival, 30. Rival, 31. Rival, 32. Rival, 33. Rival, 34. Rival, 35. Rival, 36. Rival, 37. Rival, 38. Rival, 39. Rival, 40. Rival, 41. Rival, 42. Rival, 43. Rival, 44. Rival, 45. Rival, 46. Rival, 47. Rival, 48. Rival, 49. Rival, 50. Rival, 51. Rival, 52. Rival, 53. Rival, 54. Rival, 55. Rival, 56. Rival, 57. Rival, 58. Rival, 59. Rival, 60. Rival, 61. Rival, 62. Rival, 63. Rival, 64. Rival, 65. Rival, 66. Rival, 67. Rival, 68. Rival, 69. Rival, 70. Rival, 71. Rival, 72. Rival, 73. Rival, 74. Rival, 75. Rival, 76. Rival, 77. Rival, 78. Rival, 79. Rival, 80. Rival, 81. Rival, 82. Rival, 83. Rival, 84. Rival, 85. Rival, 86. Rival, 87. Rival, 88. Rival, 89. Rival, 90. Rival, 91. Rival, 92. Rival, 93. Rival, 94. Rival, 95. Rival, 96. Rival, 97. Rival, 98. Rival, 99. Rival, 100. Rival.

Saudi Arabia Claims Position Is A Threat To World Security

United Nations, Jan. 5.

Saudi Arabia put the case of Algeria before the United Nations' Security Council today as a "grave situation" likely to endanger world peace and security.

The Saudi Arabian Ambassador, Sheikh Asad Al Faqih, said he would present a formal request for a Council meeting on the matter "at any moment."

The primary objective in raising the case, he said, was to seek a cease-fire in the French North African territory.

But he added that it was possible that the issue of self-determination might be raised in the General Assembly.

COUNCIL MEMBERS

Members of the Council are the United States, Britain, France, the Soviet Union, Nationalist China, Belgium, Brazil, New Zealand, Peru, Iran and Turkey.

Informed sources said that they did not expect the Algerian case to get support from any Council members except the Soviet Union and Iran.

A French spokesman called the Saudi Arabian initiative "absurd."

A United States spokesman said that the action appeared to be "unfounded."

Britain, Belgium, Turkey and New Zealand were counted as definitely opposed to any Council consideration of the matter on grounds of competence.

A French spokesman said: "It is absurd that anyone should attempt to bring up this matter."

He said that the French delegation would not expect the Council to devote much time to considering placing it on the agenda since it was considered out of the question that the move could get the required majority approval.

The spokesman said that "to involve the United Nations in Algeria is out of the question and any such move would be a clear violation of the powers of domestic jurisdiction."

The French spokesman would not comment on the charges made against France in Saudi Arabia's memorandum on the case, but said: "The case is completely without foundation."

Sheikh Al Faqih submitted his letter to the President of the Security Council, Mr. Leslie Knox Munn of New Zealand, and also asked the Secretary-General of the United Nations, Mr. Dag Hammarskjöld, in a second letter to distribute the memorandum among all United Nations members as well as members of the Council.

NO INTERVENTION
The Ambassador told a Press conference that the Saudi Arabian action had

been discussed with United States officials but said he knew nothing of any suggestion for United States intervention.

United States spokesmen would not comment officially on the case beyond questioning the general timeliness and "whether such a move could serve any useful purpose."

Sheikh Al Faqih said that the Algerian case had nothing to do with the Tunisian and Moroccan cases, long pending before the United Nations.

"We are not concerned here with the question of self-determination," he said. "What is going on in regard to Algeria is not similar to the Tunisian question. It is possible that self-determination may be raised in the General Assembly however."

Sheikh Al Faqih said that the Arab League felt that the Security Council was fully competent to act if it so desired, under United Nations Charter provisions calling for action to remedy any situation considered a threat to world peace.

He said that action was taken under to raise the Algerian case because of developments in the North African territory "and the decision to act on Algeria is not related to Tunisia or the negotiations going on there."

GRAVELY DISTURBED

"The Saudi Arabian Government is gravely disturbed by events in Algeria," he said, noting that Algerian Nationalist leaders have appealed for help repeatedly to the Arab states.

"We regret that the French Government is meeting the situation in a manner which has left us no alternative but to take the step we have," he said. "Our principal concern is to prevent a recurrence of the brutal massacres of Algerians."

We invite the support of all peoples of goodwill, particularly of France, whose sons are being killed far from home in a way which cannot serve the interests of either France or Algeria."

He said he believed that the Saudi Arabian Government was in contact with France regarding the situation.

"We seek only limited action by the Security Council," he said. "We are after a way to put an end to hostilities—a cease-fire. We would be satisfied with an end to the fighting."

He said that the situation in Algeria demanded attention because "the French are still bringing in more forces. That is what worries us. Far from being liquidated, the Nationalist resistance continues."

The memorandum submitted with the Saudi Arabian letter putting the case before the Security Council, protested against "the repressive and unjust French administration in Algeria" and said that the

nationalist uprising in November was "characterized by its co-ordination, which showed that France was facing a case of 'the gravest insurrection in 30 years.'"

ACTION REVIEWED

The memorandum reviewed the French action in rushing some 40,000 troops into Algeria, and a similar number into Tunisia after the November outbreaks and said France was "further seeking to strengthen their equipment and organization."

"Simultaneously with these extensive military operations the French have been launching their customary brutal colonial oppressive measures."

"Arrests throughout the country are being made by the hundreds. Nationalist parties have been outlawed and national newspapers banned."

"Public and private liberties have been restricted and thousands of people have been ordered to leave their homes, as French troops occupied entire towns in the areas surrounding the nationalist concentrations."

"The French Ministry of the Interior has stated that the French Government will not entertain nationalist demands in Algeria... that the only solution with the Algerian nationalists was war."

GREAT ALARM

"The Government and people of Saudi Arabia view the present situation in Algeria with great alarm and deep concern. Nor in our opinion can this situation fail to arouse the alarm and concern of the Arab and Muslim worlds as well."

"We recall with horror and disgust the massacre of 1945 when French troops and bombers swept through scores of villages of the Constantine province of Algeria, slaughtering over 40,000 men, women and children, without any cause or justification."

"It is the view of my Government that the situation in Algeria is one which might lead to international friction and is likely to endanger the maintenance of international peace and security."

"The Government and people of my country have for long watched with profound anxiety the French attempt to obliterate the national, cultural and religious characteristics of Algeria."

"The French Government sought to accomplish this loathsome effacement of a Moslem Arab country under the guise of the status which it imposed on it."

"Under that fictitious status it is now justifying the present and planned ruthless military operations to liquidate the nationalist uprising against French colonial rule in Algeria." —United Press.

Plan For Reform

Paris, Jan. 5.—The plan for Algerian reform which was outlined today by M. Francois Mitterand, French Minister of the Interior, is to be discussed shortly by an inter-ministerial committee before being submitted for the approval of the Government, it was learned here tonight.

NEW SOURCES

M. Mitterand recently described Algeria's needs as being the creation of new sources of economic prosperity and social equality.

"Every Algerian must have the right to education and public service," he declared.

The objectives of the Mitterand Plan, it was understood here, and decrees or draft bills are to be drawn up to put them into effect.

These objectives will include, in particular, the creation of a centre for administrative training in Algeria to allow Algerians to take the responsible posts in the public service.

Other measures are understood to be decentralization and the creation of new departments, sitting up of a centre of Islamic studies in Paris for Moslem students from North Africa and the development of hydro-electric schemes.

There will also be development of the water-supply system and of schemes of reclaiming land, whilst the gap at present existing between wages in France and in Algeria is to be reduced.

A step toward this last reform was taken recently when an increase in the lower-scale wages in France was applied to the three Algerian departments at the same time.

ELECTORAL SYSTEM

It was considered possible here too that some modification of the present electoral system in Algeria may be suggested to allow Algerians to take the responsible posts in the public service.



Crowds wave "No to German Rearmament" posters in front of the French Parliament Building while the vote on the Paris Agreement takes place before the French Assembly.—Express Photo.

Democrats File First Bill In New Congress

Washington, Jan. 5.

A Democrat-sponsored Bill to carry out President Eisenhower's overall reciprocal trade programme was the first one filed in the House of Representatives agenda when the new 84th Congress convened today.

It was introduced by Mr. Jess Cooper, a Democrat from Tennessee, new Chairman of the Ways and Means Committee, which handles tariff matters.

The House Speaker, Mr. Sam Rayburn (Democrat, Texas) had said previously that the trade programme would be the first item on the Democrat-controlled House legislative list. He labelled Mr. Cooper's Bill "number one."

The Bill proposed that the President's authority to enter

into reciprocal trade agreements with foreign countries should be extended for three years and that he should be given power to cut tariff rates up to five per cent in each of the three years for a total of 15 per cent. This is in line with what President Eisenhower had said he wanted (the Republican controlled 83rd Congress extended the President's power only from year to year and refused him power to reduce tariffs).

SIMILAR MEASURE

Mr. Robert Kean (Republican, New Jersey) who introduced a bill similar to Mr. Cooper's last year only to see it killed by prominently placed protectionist Republicans, said he would introduce a similar measure tomorrow.

The Ways and Means Committee is expected to open formal hearings on the Cooper Bill late this month, Committee officials said.

Introducing the legislation, Mr. Cooper said: "If we do not permit the free nations to trade with us, they will be forced to trade elsewhere and in many cases this can only mean Russia and her satellites."

He said the United States must lower its tariffs so that friendly nations could earn dollars through trade and thus be able to buy goods from the United States.

"A realistic foreign trade policy on our part will contribute to an expanding world economy, stability and maintenance in all the free countries rising levels of employment and real income, and create economic conditions which are conducive to world peace," Mr. Cooper said.

A section of the Cooper Bill would give the President discretion to authorize in trade negotiations with Japan tariff cuts of more than 50 per cent in the import duty rates existing on January 1, 1945, on Japanese goods. This provision had been included in the previous Presidential recommendations.

SEVERELY HANDICAPPED

Mr. Kean, a member of the Republican minority on the Ways and Means Committee, said the United States would be "seriously handicapped" in its role as leader of the free world unless Congress liberalized its trade policies as proposed.

The cornerstone of the trade programme, he said, was the Presidential power to cut tariffs below current levels. Failure to approve this would play directly into the hands of the Kremlin and effectively undermine United States efforts to halt the flow of strategic materials to the Soviet Union.

Mr. Kean said Congress must be the voice of the people in the making of a trade policy, and that the President's power to cut tariffs was a dangerous precedent.

Final Showdown Of German Problem Before The French Assembly

FORMER ENEMIES RE-UNITED

Bonn, Jan. 5.

A 10-year search by a United States airman, Captain Allen D. Fischbach, to find a German Luftwaffe officer who protected him from a hostile mob when his plane was shot down in Hungary during the war, ended today with Captain Fischbach reunited with his former enemy.

They were both guests at a dinner in the German honour by the U.S. Air Force personnel stationed at the Rhein main aerodrome, near Frankfurt.

Captain Fischbach discovered a few days ago that his benefactor, Otto Bohlen, now owns a small soap factory near Frankfurt.

When Captain Fischbach and three other American airmen were shot down over Budapest, Bohlen was given the job of escorting the four prisoners through the Hungarian capital.

They were attacked by a crowd of civilians whom Bohlen warned off by shooting into the air with his machine-gun. For this action, he was punished by the military authorities and posted to a combat unit.

Bohlen has been invited to spend three months in the United States as the guest of Captain Fischbach's father, who owns one of the largest electro-technical firms in America. —France-Press.

U.S. ENVOY FOR N.Z.

Washington, Jan. 5.

The chairman of the Senate Foreign Affairs Committee, Senator Alexander Smith, stated today that President Eisenhower has appointed Mr. Robert Hendrickson, former Republican Senator for the State of New Jersey, to be the United States Ambassador to New Zealand.

Mr. Hendrickson, who was frequently a whipping block for the attacks of Sen. Joseph McCarthy, did not stand for reelection last November. —France-Press.

Tehran, Jan. 5.

Soviet Russia has requested Iran to take care of Soviet interests in Iraq, the newspaper "Poste Teheran" reported today.

The paper added that the Soviet Embassy in Tehran has asked the Iranian Government for transit visas for Soviet diplomats from Baghdad who expressed the desire to return to their country by road.

Iraq suspended diplomatic relations with the Soviet Union on Jan. 3. —France-Press.

His House Is Falling Down! SIR WINSTON LEAVING NO. 10



New York, Jan. 5.

The New York Herald Tribune said today the news that No. 10 Downing Street, residence of British Prime Minister, was in danger of collapse was "disaster."

It added: "Unexpectedly, this is an architectural rather than a governmental situation; it is the building itself, rather than what it symbolizes, that is in danger of collapse."

The Herald Tribune said that, however, the situation was "not a disaster."

Downing Street, it would hardly be a match for the modern symbols of the present prime minister, Sir Winston Churchill.

He said there was a danger that the world would be misled by the news that the house was falling down. He said that the house was in a state of disrepair and that it was a disgrace that it should be in such a state. He said that the house was a symbol of the British Empire and that it was a disgrace that it should be in such a state. He said that the house was a symbol of the British Empire and that it was a disgrace that it should be in such a state.

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THURSDAY, JANUARY 6, 1955.

A "LAST WARNING" TO BAILEY

Judge's Threat To Charge Him With Contempt Of Court

Mr Justice J. Reynolds at the Criminal Sessions this morning gave Albert Francis Bailey, 33-year-old merchant on trial for alleged libel, a "last warning" that if he persisted in making certain remarks he would be charged with contempt of court.

Bailey had said in the witness box that he had been referred to as a man living by his wits "by a man who is living by his wits" (the Solicitor-General).

Bailey was alleged to have maliciously published defamatory libels in the form of letters to Messrs. P. H. Sun, Y. H. Chan and S. K. Yee.

The Prosecution is conducted by Mr. Arthur Hinton, Q.C., Solicitor-General, and Mr. D. N. E. Rea, both assisted by Detective Sub-Inspector R. Dudeney. Bailey is defending himself.

Continuing his own re-examination from the day before, Bailey said the Solicitor-General had said something about him "attaining about \$400,000 by doing nothing."

FAR FROM TRUTH

That was just about as far from the truth as Mr Hinton could get, he stated, referring to the Court to documents relating to the cargo of carbon black.

Bailey went on to say that the Solicitor-General had said he had been called a "man living by his wits" by a man who is living by his wits.

Bailey then turned to the subject of the carbon black cargo. When he started to speak at the time that he imported such cargo in Shanghai, Mr Justice Reynolds told him that was not relevant.

Bailey submitted that it was relevant. He said he wanted to show the Court his previous experience in handling this kind of cargo.

"I have been called a man living by his wits by a man who is living by his wits," the accused retorted.

Mr Hinton being absent from Court, Mr Rea rose and said he strongly objected to that last remark.

Mr Justice Reynolds told Bailey that he had been warned before not to use those kind of remarks.

"I AM SORRY"

Bailey replied he was sorry, but that he would now allow himself to be insulted for nothing. "I have my own temper; I made that way, My Lord."

"Temper has got nothing to do with it," His Lordship declared. "I am warning you for the last time. If you persist in making those remarks you will

be charged with contempt of Court. Do you understand?"

"Yes, My Lord. I will not do so again."

Continuing his re-examination, Bailey said he had been asked repeatedly in cross-examination if he expected the Jury to believe this or that.

Bailey said his reply was that he only expected the Jury to believe the truth.

When the accused started saying that the Solicitor-General had "twisted his words" during cross-examination, His Lordship interposed, saying he wished Bailey would not use the term "twisted."

His Lordship added that Mr Hinton had made suggestions. Bailey replied that Mr Hinton certainly did not suggest anything. "He hurled his insults at me."

His Lordship reiterated that Mr Hinton had put suggestions to Bailey and did not twist anything.

Resuming his re-examination, the accused said that what the Solicitor-General had suggested was entirely far-fetched and untrue, that he had obtained \$400,000 by doing nothing.

ONLY ONE SIDE?

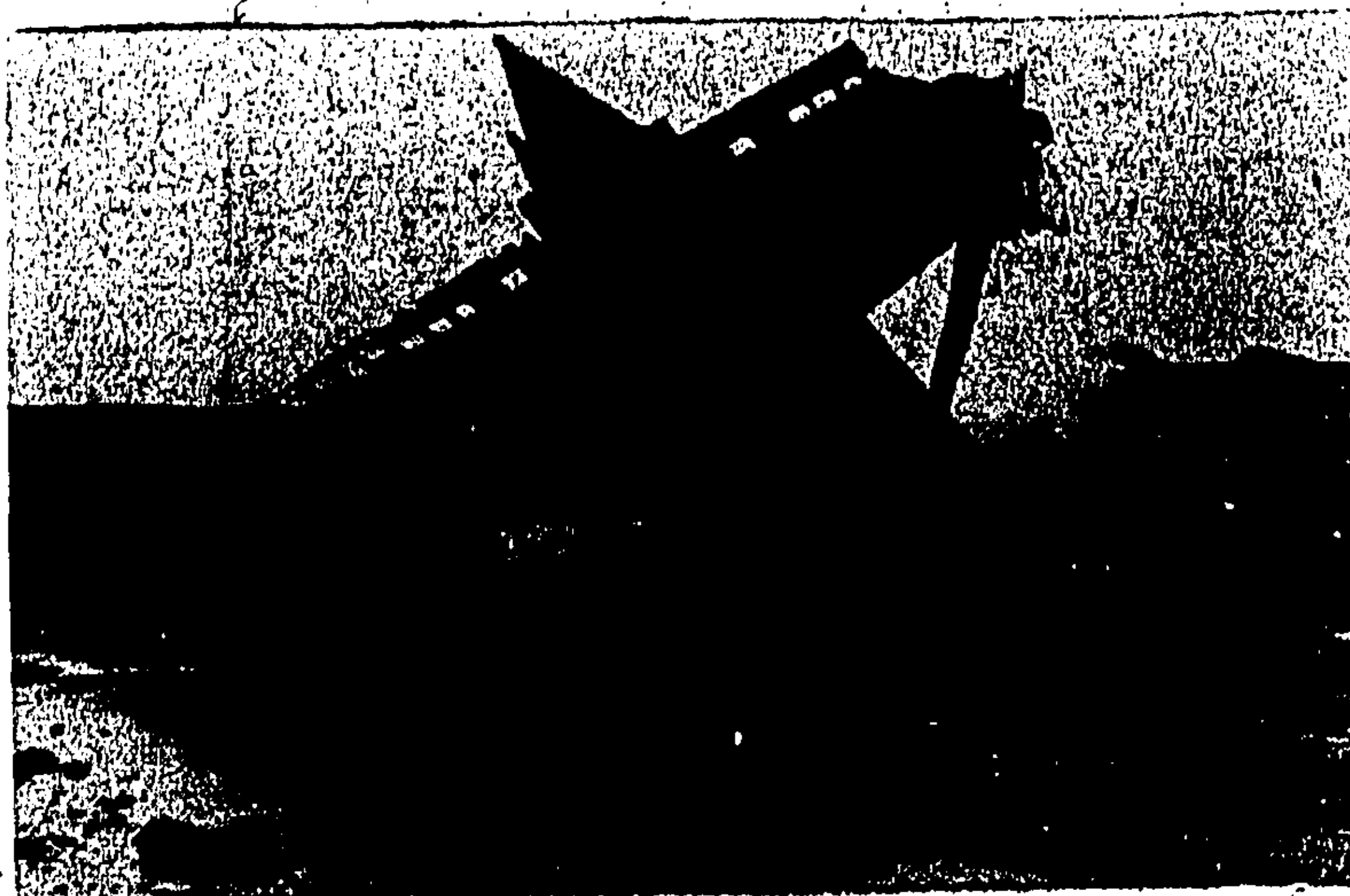
Bailey then turned to Mr Hinton's remark that a barrister was in a complete charge of a case; once he entered a Courtroom Crown Counsel here objected to evidence given in re-examination relating to matters not connected with the facts of the case.

Bailey rejoined that it appeared that only one side was permitted "to tell lies" while he himself was not allowed to say anything in answer.

Mr Rea objected to what he called the "constant insinuations" by Bailey. If the accused could call expert evidence by any Counsel in the Colony on the matter, then let him do so. Bailey said he doubted if he could get any Counsel to stand up and speak against the Solicitor-General.

His Lordship ruled that Bailey in his re-examination must not give evidence as to facts relating to what took place in Court. Hearing is continuing.

Christmas Air Disaster



Again Christmas brought disaster in the air. As a knot of people waited at 2.50 a.m. to meet friends and relatives visiting them for the holiday, a British Overseas Airways Corporation Stratocruiser crashed at Prestwick Airport, Ayrshire, Scotland; 28 of the 36 people aboard were killed. As the giant plane came in to land it bumped down, toppled on to its side and caught fire. Seven members of the crew and one passenger escaped from the broken-off nose and a hole in the fuselage, but flames prevented airport firemen from rescuing the remaining passengers and crew trapped inside the plane. Picture shows the wrecked tail of the Stratocruiser. — London Express Photo.

OPENING OF ECAFE TALKS

(Continued from Page 1)

"The delegations here today probably represent one half of the total population of the world; a half which is increasing at the rate of some 15 millions every year. What you accomplish here today may in some way, however small, affect the lives of more than a thousand million people. I should like to remind you of their needs, of their hopes, and particularly of your responsibilities. I wish you every possible success in your efforts to help them. I can assure you that the economic well-being of the peoples of the ECAFE region is of vital importance, not only to East and Southeast Asia but to the whole world."

"Although you have a very full agenda I trust you will have some free time to get around to see something of Hongkong for yourselves. Each delegation has been given a car for its own use, but you will not be able to travel much more than twenty or thirty miles in any direction. Perhaps some day we may all be able to travel much further: from Hongkong to Peking and on to Moscow, down to Berlin and Paris, across to London and back again by New York, San Francisco and Tokyo. If in the next few days some of your speakers hold the floor for too long just let your minds dwell on the prospect of the road that lies ahead: the road from East to West and West to East. Many bridges have yet to be built, but this is a route along which all people must some day travel freely without restriction or interference if all nations are to live together happily and peacefully."

INTENSE DESIRE

In a speech to the delegates prior to the opening of the session by His Excellency the Governor, ECAFE's executive secretary, Dr. Palanndat S. Lokanathan said there was an intense desire everywhere for an expansion of trade and the removal of "unnecessary barriers to trade and restrictions on trade."

The climate for the promotion of trade was perhaps more favourable now than at any time before, he said. Dr. Lokanathan said in part: "Within the countries of the region there has been a very significant change in the attitudes and policies towards trade. In the immediate post-war world there was a feeling that home produced goods should be retained either for consumption or for processing within the country rather than exported. But during the last two years 'export policy' in most countries has become essentially a trade promotion policy and a liberalising one, on the basis of selectivity—encouraging imports of capital and developmental goods and discouraging luxury imports. The world has also become a buyer's market and the desire to sell presents a challenge and an opportunity for increased trade."

A WIDE RANGE

"As this is the first session of the Sub-Committee on Trade, the agenda has been framed to cover a wide range of subjects and problems concerning the economic, administrative and technical aspects of developing trade. Your deliberations will indicate problems of common interest to the countries on which ECAFE should concentrate its efforts—problems of regional importance and problems which call for urgent solution. This will ensure the selection of a few specific items of major interest to the countries for the future meetings of the Sub-Committee."

The report on arbitration (which had earlier been circulated to all delegates) reveals that existing facilities in the ECAFE region are inadequate from the point of view of international commerce and suggests various aspects in which work is required to be developed. Trade disputes, as you know, are expensive and undesirable and they can do serious harm to a country's trade if adequate mechanism is not devised to eliminate them as far as possible, and to bring about amicable settlements when they arise. The usefulness of arbitration as a measure to maintain international goodwill in the trade sector is universally acknowledged, and I hope the Sub-Committee will consider the suggestions presented in the report and will indicate the lines which it may like to adopt for dealing with this problem."

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"As you are aware, the development of efficient and effective trade promotion organizations, policies and methods are very essential for the sound development of international trade. Unfortunately, with the exception of a few countries in this region, most of them and particularly the smaller countries of the region have still to organize their basic trade promotion structure. Some of the countries do not have adequate commercial intelligence services, including overseas trade representation, for various reasons, such as lack of finance and lack of trained personnel. It is a well-known fact that a sound commercial intelligence service is essential for the promotion of trade of a country."

"A regular flow of information of commercial value is necessary for fuller exploitation of trade opportunities. The secretariat, with its limited staff resources, has hitherto disseminated the relevant information by acting as a clearance house for the flow of such information and has also assisted in training facilities."

"You may wish to consider what further positive measures could and should be adopted to meet this problem. If you consider it possible to devise measures and establish procedures whereby countries which do not have, or cannot afford, the maintenance of an overseas trade representation service and would be willing to offer them, it may be worth your while to give special consideration at one of the future sessions of the Sub-Committee to explore such measures for consideration."

"There is, however, need for solving the basic problems between countries, which

think, can be extended into other fields such as joint participation in international fairs and exhibitions. Without such collaboration, it would be extremely difficult for the smaller and the less developed countries of the region to achieve more concrete results by themselves."

XMAS PUDDING RECIPE WAS PREPARED BY VIRGIN MARY

Paris, Jan. 5. The British claim that the recipe of their Christmas pudding stems directly from the one used nearly 20 centuries ago by the Virgin Mary when she made the first Christmas cake, said the independent newspaper "Le Monde" today.

In its edition on the eve of Epiphany, the Christian festival of the Three Wise Men, the newspaper said that after crossing the burning, sand-swamp Arabian mountains to adore the infant Christ in Bethlehem, the Three Wise Men, in addition to their gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh, gave to the Virgin Mary figs, dried raisins, spices and tropical fruits.

The Virgin Mary added honey, milk, butter, and eggs offered by the shepherds to make the first Christmas cake.—France-Press.

A FINE CONCERT BY JULIUS KATCHEN

Hongkong has long been looking forward to the two recitals by Julius Katchen, the young man who has been making a name for himself as a fine pianist in four continents.

Last night's concert at the Empire Theatre showed there is no doubt at all that Katchen is a pianist who will soon be among the master players of the world. Not only has he a strong and effortless technique, but also great intensity of feeling, disciplined by a serious philosophical, at times almost intellectual approach to the music he interprets.

The opening pieces last night were two Intermezzi by Brahms, both quietly contemplative, in which Katchen seemed to be "playing himself in" and establishing a quite definite relationship with the audience, which few pianists trouble to do. This was continued in the opening of the second half of the concert, when he explained to the audience the significance of Moussorgsky's "Pictures at an Exhibition," apart from this being helpful, it indicated an extremely pleasing personality and attitude.

The two highlights of the concert were undoubtedly the Sonata "Appassionata" by Beethoven, and the Moussorgsky work. Solid can the Appassionata have been played with such authority, strength, depth and clarity.

It was a joy to hear every note of every passage, and this is not quite such a simple statement as it sounds, for it is easy, even for a good player, to "fake" now and again.

Katchen gave nothing away; that is, he extracted every ounce of beauty from the Appassionata. His clarity was emphasised by his clean and economical pedalling, his model to every pianist. He brought out the lyrical qualities which are always present in Beethoven's slow movements, and he did not take the last movement too fast, as many pianists are apt to do. He made the most of the dramatic moment, so typical of Beethoven, of the transition from the slow second movement to the last tempestuous movement; this excellent transition is also used by Beethoven in the Emperor Concerto, which Katchen must play infinitely.

After the Beethoven, the Chopin Sonata in B minor seemed a somewhat lesser work. Chopin was not always at his best in the Sonatas, though they have their superb moments, but they have not the greatness of conception or the coherence of a Beethoven sonata. The last movement of the B minor Sonata is the finest section; it is a masterpiece of compact emotional dynamism, and Katchen launched it at us with his terrific intensity, though on the whole I would say he is not a romantic player. In response to a great ovation, he gave Chopin's E flat Nocturne as an encore to close the first half of the concert.

Moussorgsky's "Pictures at an Exhibition" may be programme or descriptive music, as Katchen told us so engagingly last night, but they are also music which

may be listened to as pure beauty of sound, and enjoyed for that alone as well as for the pictures they convey. Up to now I have preferred this work in its orchestral version, but after hearing Katchen play it, it is necessary to change one's mind. The lightness of the strings, the clarity of the woodwind, the triumphant blasts of the brass, were all implicit in his playing. And in the "tutti" sections, the piano sounded as like a full orchestra as ever I have heard it. The final picture, "The Great Gate at Kiev," is one long climax, and Katchen sustained it to the last green chord. It is a pity Moussorgsky did not write many more works of this calibre for the piano.

Katchen is a "big" player, in a different sense from a "great" one, though this he undoubtedly is also. He has a big conception of the works he undertakes, and is really at his best when handling the great classical masterpieces.

Tonight we shall hear him in Bach's Choral Prelude, "Jesu, Joy of Man's Dearing," another Beethoven Sonata—the first of the thirty-two, op. 111, the Handel-Brahms Variations, and work by Liszt.—X X

Russia Signs Trade Pact With Yugoslavia

Moscow, Jan. 5. The Soviet Union and Yugoslavia signed today the first official trade pact since Yugoslavia was expelled from the Cominform in 1948.

The pact provides for the exchange of goods worth a total of \$20,000,000 (about £1,400,000). Under the pact Yugoslavia will send the Soviet Union meat, canned goods, tobacco and textiles. Russia will supply petrol, crude oil, printing machinery and cotton.

The new pact marks a major step in normalisation of Soviet-Yugoslav commercial relations. Following similar moves in the political field, it is expected that trade will ease Yugoslavia's position.—Reuter.

Mail Notices

The latest times of posting shown below are subject to any registered correspondence posted at G. P. O. Hongkong. The latest posting times elsewhere which, in the case of airmail, are subject to G.P.O. times can be ascertained by enquiry at the local office.

THURSDAY, JANUARY 6
By Air
Philippines, N. Borneo, 5 p.m.
Surabaya, 6 p.m.
Macao, 6 p.m.

FRIDAY, JANUARY 7
By Air
Philippines, 9 a.m.
Thailand, Burma, India, Pakistan, Malaya, Ceylon, 11 a.m.
Hawaii, U.S.A., 11 a.m.
Japan, 12 a.m.
Formosa, Okinawa, Japan, 2 p.m.
Korea, 2 p.m.
Spain, U.S., Canada, 5 p.m.
Japan, U.S., Canada, 5 p.m.
Malaya, Ceylon, 6 p.m.
China, People's Republic, 8.30 a.m.
Indonesia, 11 a.m.
N. Borneo, Australia, New Zealand, Noon.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 8
By Air
Philippines, 9 a.m.
Thailand, Burma, India, Pakistan, Malaya, Ceylon, 11 a.m.
Hawaii, U.S.A., 11 a.m.
Japan, 12 a.m.
Formosa, Okinawa, Japan, 2 p.m.
Korea, 2 p.m.
Spain, U.S., Canada, 5 p.m.
Japan, U.S., Canada, 5 p.m.
Malaya, Ceylon, 6 p.m.
China, People's Republic, 8.30 a.m.
Indonesia, 11 a.m.
N. Borneo, Australia, New Zealand, Noon.

SUNDAY, JANUARY 9
By Air
Philippines, 9 a.m.
Thailand, Burma, India, Pakistan, Malaya, Ceylon, 11 a.m.
Hawaii, U.S.A., 11 a.m.
Japan, 12 a.m.
Formosa, Okinawa, Japan, 2 p.m.
Korea, 2 p.m.
Spain, U.S., Canada, 5 p.m.
Japan, U.S., Canada, 5 p.m.
Malaya, Ceylon, 6 p.m.
China, People's Republic, 8.30 a.m.
Indonesia, 11 a.m.
N. Borneo, Australia, New Zealand, Noon.

Three Killed In Tragic Accident

Tokyo, Jan. 5. A fire engine, overloaded with 40 persons, returning from a New Year's celebration, plunged off a highway near Kofu city today, killing three persons and injuring 29 others.

Police in Kofu city, 70 miles east of Tokyo, said that the driver was drunk and did not have a licence. The fire engine was carrying five times its normal capacity, the Police said.—United Press.

Correction

In yesterday's China Mail it was stated, in a report on a forthcoming action by the Japanese Government, that the Japanese Government had decided to send a large number of troops to the Korean Peninsula. This was a mistake. The Japanese Government has decided to send a large number of troops to the Korean Peninsula.

JOHN CLARKE'S CASEBOOK

TRANSFER OF POWER

THREE generations shared the flat in Bloomsbury. There were the husband and his wife. There was their small daughter. And there was the young wife's mother.

The arrangement worked as well as any such can. Small resentments smouldered, from time to time, but they were usually stamped out before much damage could be done.

The mother was not, as sometimes happens, merely tolerated. She was well-loved, and some of the love sprang from gratitude.

For the flat had once been hers alone, and she had made it over to her son-in-law so that he and her daughter should have a home for their family.

AUTHORITY RETAINED

In effect, the young wife's mother became a tenant in her old home, and paid a little out of the little money she had towards the rent.

But the arrangement was much less coldly businesslike than it looks when put down on paper, and the young couple gladly submitted to the older woman's authority in many matters regarding their home.

The other day the older woman, whose name was Lydia, went to the West End to look at the shops. In one, she was seen to steal a diary.

A store detective followed Lydia into the street. "Excuse me," she began. Lydia brushed her aside.

THE DISCOVERIES

She told what she had seen. "Oh God," said Lydia, "what have I done? Please, forgive me."

Lydia was taken back to the shop. There it was found that she had stolen not only a diary but, unobserved, a ball-point pen and a bottle of scent.

The police were called. At the police station, Lydia, a slightly-built woman of 55, confessed that from another shop she had stolen some bells, talcum powder and a bottle of perfume water—without being discovered.

LYDIA'S DAUGHTER

At Great Marlborough Street next morning Lydia, dressed all in black, pleaded guilty and the story was told to Mr Paul Bennett, VC.

"This woman," said the officer in charge of the case, "has a position of 10s. and National Assistance amounting to £1 12s. 6d. a week."

"Out of that," she pays 25s. towards the rent of the flat. Her daughter is here, sir, and would like to speak to you."

Lydia's daughter, came forward, tall, slim, dark-haired girl. Her mother put a minute lace handkerchief across both her eyes.

SOME SORT OF MADNESS

"My mother's not been strong since my father died," Lydia's daughter said. "She's not a dishonest person."

"But she's a self-confessed thief," the officer said. "She has been some sort of madhouse."

"You're not helping her by talking like this," Mr Bennett said.

"Please be lenient with her," Lydia's daughter cried. And her eyes sought out her mother's.

"This is a problem for me. It's a bad case, obviously," said the magistrate.

He dwelt on the possibilities of prison, and then said to Lydia: "You will pay a 40s. fine and £3 3s. costs."

"Oh, thank you," Lydia said. Slowly, she went away. Her daughter hurried to be with her, to take charge.

Nothing would ever be quite the same again in their home. There had been a transfer of authority, a shift of power.

Radio Hongkong
R.H.K.T.
Time signal and programme summary by "Radio Day" (8.00 a.m.)
8.30 a.m. News (English)
9.00 a.m. Weather report, China (English)
9.30 a.m. World News (English)
10.00 a.m. Commentary (English)
10.30 a.m. Special Announcement (English)
11.00 a.m. News (Chinese)
11.30 a.m. News (Chinese)
12.00 noon. Lunch break
12.30 noon. News (Chinese)
1.00 p.m. News (Chinese)
1.30 p.m. News (Chinese)
2.00 p.m. News (Chinese)
2.30 p.m. News (Chinese)
3.00 p.m. News (Chinese)
3.30 p.m. News (Chinese)
4.00 p.m. News (Chinese)
4.30 p.m. News (Chinese)
5.00 p.m. News (Chinese)
5.30 p.m. News (Chinese)
6.00 p.m. News (Chinese)
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9.30 p.m. News (Chinese)
10.00 p.m. News (Chinese)
10.30 p.m. News (Chinese)
11.00 p.m. News (Chinese)
11.30 p.m. News (Chinese)
12.00 midnight. News (Chinese)

British Rail Strike May Be Called Off

London, Jan. 5.

The British rail strike scheduled to start on Sunday may now be called off, political circles said tonight.

This optimism was based on the conclusions of an independent Court of Inquiry, published this morning.

These conclusions favour the railwaymen's claims that their wage demands should be accepted immediately while at the same time, they constitute a "face-saver" for the Government and the railway management.

CALL FOR NEW TALKS

The report stated the railway network was a public service owned by the nation and the nation should see to it that the railwaymen were paid decent wages.

Calling for a resumption of negotiations, the Court asked the railwaymen to cancel the strike order.

So far, the railwaymen's reply is not known.

Earlier today, Labour Minister Sir Walter Monckton saw the representatives of the National Union of Railwaymen, and this was followed by talks with members of the management board. He then held a second meeting with the union representatives.

The railwaymen are demanding an eight to ten shilling weekly pay increase. Negotia-

tions for this increase have been going on for 17 months.

Political circles believe the Labour Minister would ask and obtain the approval of the Cabinet for a compromise solution during its special session tomorrow.

Cabinet approval would mean that, sooner or later, the nation's budget would have to shoulder the cost of granting the wage claims.

After the talks with Sir Walter Monckton, Mr Jim Campbell, Secretary of the National Union of Railwaymen, told reporters "the position stands as it was."

NOT BROKEN DOWN

The talks had not broken down, he said. The meeting would continue tomorrow morning. "We shall have to wait till then to see whether we are making any definite progress or not," Mr Campbell said.

Mr Campbell said: "We want some assurance we are going to get something on the basis of what we originally asked for, otherwise I cannot see any possibility of my Executive changing its attitude at the present time."—France-Press and Reuter.

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